

Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها)

Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) was the beloved daughter of Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (رضى الله عنه). She (رضى الله عنها) was born in Makkah. Her parents brought her up in conformity with the true spirit of Islam. She (رضى الله عنها) was quite young when she got married to the Holy Prophet (ﷺ). She (رضى الله عنها) proved herself to be an extremely faithful, intelligent and loving wife.

Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) was blessed with an amazing memory. She (رضى الله عنها) listened to the lectures given by the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) to the delegates and other people most attentively. Sometimes she (رضى الله عنها) asked the opinion of her husband (ﷺ) on delicate matters related to Islam. This secured her position as the most authentic reporter and scholar of his (ﷺ) traditions.

Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) remained with the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) for ten years. After the death of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), his faithful companion Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (رضى الله عنه) became the first Khalifah of Muslims. Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) continued to enjoy the most eminent position of "Ummul-Momeneen". She (رضى الله عنها) was universally recognized as the most important woman in the Muslim world. Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (رضى الله عنه) did not live long and died two and a half years after the death of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ).

During the reign of Hazrat Umer Farooq (رضى الله عنه), the second Khalifah, Islam spread rapidly. Hazrat Ayesha's (رضى الله عنها) wise counsels were sought and respected on all majors issues. She (رضى الله عنها) was the witness to all the changes through which Islam passed during the thirty years of the pious Khilafat. She (رضى الله عنها) died in 678 A.D. during the reign of Hazrat Amir Muawiya (رضى الله عنه).

She (رضى الله عنها) was distinguished for her virtues, piety, learning, wisdom, simplicity, generosity and the care with which she (رضى الله عنها) safeguarded and faithfully reported the religious sermons of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ). She (رضى الله عنها) bravely criticized anything that she thought was against Islam. Her simplicity and modesty serves as a guiding light to all the Muslim ladies of the world. There were hardly three successive days during the life time of her husband (ﷺ), when Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) had a full meal. The night when the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) breathed his last, she (رضى الله عنها) had neither oil to light her lamp, nor anything to eat.

Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) seldom kept the money and gifts she (رضى الله عنها) received. She (رضى الله عنها) promptly distributed them among the needy.

Once, during the month of Ramadan, when Hazrat Abdullah lbne Zubair (رضى الله عنه) presented her a purse of one lac dirhams, she (رضى الله عنها) distributed them before breaking her fast.

Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) had a splendid quality of oration. Her services to promote knowledge and Islamic Jurisprudence have few parallels in the Islamic history. Whenever a difficult problem came up, the matter was ultimately referred to her and her word was considered final. She (رضى الله عنها) is regarded as the greatest genius of early Islam.

The great lady of Islam breathed her last on the 17th Ramadan 58 A.H. Her death cast a gloom over Madina and the entire Islamic World.

Words

Meanings

beloved	greatly loved
faithful	trustful
amazing	wonderful
secure	safe
authentic	true
safeguard	protect
piety	being pious, devout
oration	speech
splendid	very impressive
jurisprudence	knowledge of law
genius	intellect

EXERCISES

1. Put a tick (✓) if the statement is correct and a cross (×) if it is incorrect.
 - i. Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) was born in Madina.
 - ii. She (رضى الله عنها) was the daughter of the first Khalifah of Islam, Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (رضى الله عنه).
 - iii. Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) is known as the most authentic reporter of the traditions of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ).
 - iv. She (رضى الله عنها) lived in a grand palace.
 - v. Hazrat Ayesha (رضى الله عنها) was a well known orator.
 - vi. She (رضى الله عنها) lived a life of simplicity and piety.
 - vii. She (رضى الله عنها) died during the reign of Hazrat Ali (رضى الله عنه).

2. Tick (✓) the right answer.

- i. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) was the daughter of
a) Hazrat Umer (رضی اللہ عنہ) b) Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (رضی اللہ عنہ)
c) Hazrat Usman (رضی اللہ عنہ)
- ii. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) remained with the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) for
a) ten years b) nine years
c) seven years
- iii. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) had a splendid quality of
a) writing b) oration
c) painting
- iv. She (رضی اللہ عنہا) was born in
a) Madina b) Makkah
c) Taif
- v. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) is regarded as one of the greatest
a) geniuses of early Islam b) writers of early Islam
c) poetesses of early Islam

3. Fill in the blanks.

- i. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) was the beloved daughter of _____.
- ii. She (رضی اللہ عنہا) was born in _____.
- iii. She (رضی اللہ عنہا) had an _____ memory.
- iv. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) remained with the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) for _____ years.
- v. _____ was the second Khalifah of Islam.
- vi. She (رضی اللہ عنہا) was the most _____ reporter of the traditions of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ).
- vii. Hazrat Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہا) died in _____ A.D.

4. Answer the following questions:

- i. Who was Hazrat Ayesha's (رضی اللہ عنہا) father?
- ii. Where was she (رضی اللہ عنہا) born?